

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 03214 011149Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----114181 011152Z /10
O 011110Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9061

S E C R E T BANGKOK 3214

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, TH, US
SUBJECT: HUMPHREY ESPIONAGE CASE: IMPACT IN THAILAND

REF: (A) STATE 25926 (B) STATE 25932 (C) STATE 25233

1. AS INSTRUCTED I LEFT OFF WITH UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS ARUN PHANUPHONG FEB 1 AIDE MEMOIRE EMBODYING POINTS IN PARA 2 REF A. (FOREIGN MINISTER UPPADIT WILL NOT RPT NOT RETURN FROM VISIT TO CAMBODIA TILL MORNING OF FEB 2 BANGKOK TIME.) ARUN APPEARED GENERALLY AWARE OF THE CASE (VOA AND BBC CARRIED REPORTS ON IT THIS MORNING, AND BANGKOK WORLD AFTERNOON OF FEB 1 CARRIED BRIEF ARTICLE ON ARRAIGNMENT IN ALEXANDRIA OF HUMPHREY AND HUNG). HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR OUR PROVIDING FURTHER DETAILS OF CASE AND THANKED ME WHEN I SAID THAT EMBASSY WOULD KEEP MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS INFORMED AS THE CASE PROGRESSES.

2. I ALSO ARRANGED FOR DELIVERY OF COPY AIDE MEMOIRE TO NSC SECRETARY GENERAL A-AI MARSHAL SIT SAWETTASILA. EMBOFF ALSO REVIEWED WITH HIM SUBJECTS OF MESSAGES CONTAINED IN INDICTMENT. AFTER LOOKING AT SUBJECT HEADINGS, SIT INDICATED THAT THEY SHOULD NOT CAUSE ANY EMBARRASSMENT TO RTG OR ANY DIFFICULTIES IN US-THAI RELATIONS.

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3. I NOTE THAT, ACCORDING TO REF C, INDICTMENT OF HUMPHREY AND HUNG (TEXT IN REF B) WAS SEALED, PENDING THEIR ARREST. ASSUME IT IS NO LONGER SEALED AND THAT IT IS NOW PUBLIC DOCUMENT AVAILABLE TO PRESS. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO PROVIDE ARUN WITH COPY OF INDICTMENT, AS PRESS ACCOUNTS PRESUMABLY WILL BEGIN TO

MAKE REFERENCE TO IT, POSSIBLY IN ACCOUNTS WHICH CAN BE EXPECTED TO APPEAR IN BANGKOK MORNING PRESS FEB 2.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT CONFIRM THAT INDICTMENT IS NO LONGER SEALED AND THAT EMBASSY MAY APPROPRIATELY PROVIDE COPY TO THAI MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

WHITEHOUSE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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